

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 have been examined. Claim 34 has been added as a new claim. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-34 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 4-14 and 16-33 stand allowed. Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph. Claims 1, 2 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cook (U.S. Patent No. 6,155,664). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Cook in view of Myung (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,144). Applicant traverses the rejections for at least the reasons discussed below.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the interview that was conducted on October 2, 2003. During the interview, the Cook reference was discussed with respect to claims 1 and 15 and the Examiner tentatively agreed to language for claims 1 and 15 for overcoming the rejection with respect to the Cook reference. However, the Examiner required Applicant to file an Amendment which incorporates the agreed upon changes. Accordingly, Applicant submits this Amendment which incorporates the agreed upon language for claims 1 and 15.

Specifically, there were two different changes that were tentatively agreed to by the Examiner with respect to claim 1 to which the Examiner agreed that if one or the two were made to claim 1, the rejection with respect to the Cook reference would be overcome. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the first agreed upon language change and has added new claim 34, which is simply claim 1 with the second agreed upon language change. Furthermore, Applicant has amended claim 15 to incorporate the language agreed upon by the Examiner to overcome the rejection with respect to the Cook reference.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No.: 09/688,187

Attorney Docket No.: Q61335

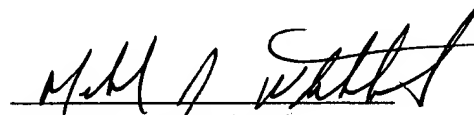
In view of the above agreed upon changes, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 3 and 15 are now in allowable form. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 15 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone attorney number listed below.

It is believed that no petition or fee is required. However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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